



Wright, Constable & Skeen, LLP.

Attorneys at law

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One Charles Center, 16th Floor • 100 North Charles Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21201-3812 • 410-659-1300 • Fax 410-659-1350

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Douglas G. Worrall
 Michael J. Abromaitis
 Monte Fried
 James W. Constable
 David W. Skeen
 Robert W. Hesselbacher, Jr.**
 James D. Skeen*
 Kenneth F. Davies
 Stephen F. White
 Lois Fenner McBride
 Frederick L. Cobb
 Paul F. Evelius
 Mary Alice Smolarek*

Associates
 Michael A. Stanley
 Howard S. Stevens*
 Victoria August
 Joy K. Sakellaris
 W. Jay Lee

Of Counsel
 Francis N. Iglehart
 P. McEvoy Cromwell

Wm. P. Constable (1882-1976)
 John D. Wright (1903-1976)

Towson Office
 307 West Allegheny Avenue
 Towson, Maryland 21204-4258
 Phone 410-825-0750
 Fax 410-825-0715

www.wcslaw.com

WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL/E-MAIL
 (410)659-1336/dwskeen@wcslaw.com

DEPUTY

BY HAND

The Honorable William M. Nickerson
 United States District Court
 for the District of Maryland
 101 West Lombard Street
 Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: United American Line v.
 Safmarine Container Lines N.V.
 and M/V SAUDI MAKKAH, in rem
Case No. WMN-01-3817

Dear Judge Nickerson:

Friday afternoon we heard from counsel for defendant, Safmarine Container Lines N.V. We are under pending Order of February 26, 2002 to take an entry of default or report as to why such Motion would be inappropriate on or before March 12, 2002. Mr. Michael Fernandez of Freehill, Hogan & Maher's office in New York has advised that he has just received the claim documents and needs some additional time to respond or otherwise answer the attached Complaint. Also, in light of the amount involved (\$11,000), we will be discussing settlement. Accordingly, we request an extension of time for requiring a response from defendant Safmarine up to and including April 1, 2002.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

David W. Skeen

" APPROVED
 OF March, 2002
David W. Skeen

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
 Encl.

cc via fax: Michael Fernandez, Esquire (212)425-1901
 Freehill, Hogan & Maher, LLP

* Admitted in the District of Columbia and Maryland 048 v. (09823.00001)

** Admitted in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia